

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 20, 2005

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005–06 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 723

Introduced by Assembly Member Chu

February 17, 2005

An act to add Section ~~51231~~ 60605.4 to the Education Code, relating to public school curriculum.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 723, as amended, Chu. Public school curriculum: tolerance instruction.

Existing law requires the State Board of Education to adopt statewide academically rigorous content standards in core curriculum areas, and requires the board to review and modify existing curriculum frameworks where appropriate to bring them into alignment with these content standards.

This bill would, as a component of that review, require the State Board of Education to integrate instruction on intergroup relations and tolerance into existing curriculum frameworks, with certain requirements.

~~Existing law provides the adopted course of study for grades 7 to 12, inclusive, and requires a school district to offer instruction on a variety of subjects.~~

~~This bill would require the State Department of Education to develop a curriculum that provides instruction on tolerance, with certain requirements. The bill would require a school district to provide this instruction to pupils in kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive, thereby creating a state-mandated local program.~~

~~The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state.~~

~~Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.~~

~~This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: ~~yes~~ no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 ~~SECTION 1. Section 51231 is added to the Education Code,~~
2 ~~to read:~~

3 ~~SECTION 1. Section 60605.4 is added to the Education Code,~~
4 ~~to read:~~

5 ~~60605.4. As a component of the review required in~~
6 ~~subdivision (e) of Section 60605, the state board shall, after~~
7 ~~consulting with civil rights organizations that relate to~~
8 ~~discrimination on the basis of characteristics identified in~~
9 ~~subdivision (a) of Section 422.55 of the Penal Code, integrate~~
10 ~~instruction on intergroup relations and tolerance into existing~~
11 ~~curriculum frameworks.~~

12 ~~51231. (a) The department shall develop a model curriculum~~
13 ~~that provides instruction on tolerance for members of different~~
14 ~~racial, ethnic, or religious groups, for pupils in kindergarten and~~
15 ~~grades 1 to 12, inclusive.~~

16 ~~(b) In developing the curriculum described in subdivision (a),~~
17 ~~the department shall seek the advice of individuals and groups~~
18 ~~from diverse racial, ethnic, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds,~~
19 ~~and civil rights organizations.~~

20 ~~(c) A school district shall provide the instruction developed~~
21 ~~pursuant to subdivision (a) to pupils in kindergarten and grades 1~~
22 ~~to 12, inclusive.~~

23 ~~SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that~~
24 ~~this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to~~
25 ~~local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made~~
26 ~~pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division~~
27 ~~4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.~~

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